



COUNTY OF STILLWATER

State of Montana

Environmental Health Department

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Stillwater County Environmental Health Department "Food Service Establishment Licensing"

By definition in MCA 50-5-2 (8), "food service establishment", means an operation that stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends or otherwise provides food for human consumption in mobile, stationary temporary, semi-permanent, or permanent facility or location; where consumption is on or off the premises and regardless of whether there is a charge for the food.

Licensed State Food Purveyor; Permanent Facility

These food service establishments have a state license to operate in Stillwater County. They include restaurants, or a restaurant/caterer, grocery stores, manufacturers, bar or taverns, schools, etc. These facilities meet all food service regulations to allow them to operate safely year round. Off-site catering is dependent on the licensed facility for food preparation and clean up. Catering licenses are only good for the county in which they are licensed. Example: a catering license in Yellowstone County does not mean you can cater in Stillwater County. You would have to have a catering license or temporary food event license in Stillwater County.

Licensed State Food Purveyor; Mobile Unit

These food services are equipped to be self-contained with on-board equipment, storage, and clean up facilities. This state license allows them to travel anywhere in MT to operate if they can do so without a commissary. They must be able to take on potable water and dispose of wastewater in an approved manner. They are allowed to operate on a year round basis if feasible.

Licensed State Food Purveyor; Temporary Food Service

This type of food service, by definition, operates at a fixed location for a period of time not more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event of celebration. This license is issued per event only and each applicant must ensure that they are able to meet minimum requirement for food safety. Menu and methods of food preparation are simplified to reduce risk.

Non-profit Short Term Permit

This permit is issued to vendors selling food in place of obtaining the State Temporary Food Service License. Minimum food safety requirements must still be met, but there is no license fee. This allows clubs and non-profit organizations an opportunity to do fundraisers. As with temporary food service licenses, the menus and methods of

preparation are simplified to minimize risk. This gives the department the opportunity to stress the importance of food safety.

Farmers Market

MCA 50-50-202 states that no license is required to sell “raw and unprocessed farm products” or preserves and non-potentially hazardous baked goods at a farmers market. Those selling any other items that are not exempt must obtain the proper license.